(e) if not, whether Government would formulate any National Policy for the treatment of cancer patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to India Council of Medical Research (ICMR) the estimated number of cancer patients who that die in India every year is about 4.0 to 4.5 lakhs. This is based on the crude cancer mortality rates obtained by averaging the mortality rates observed in Mumbai and Chennai Population Based Cancer Registry during 1999-2000.

(c) and (d) The National Cancer Control Programme was initiated in the year 1975. Subsequently it was revised in the year 1984-85 with emphasis on primary prevention and early detection of cancer. Various schemes were introduced under the programme in order to strengthen cancer control activities in the country. Under the Xth Five Year Plan, the schemes have been modified to further augment the existing facilities. The focus is on covering the geographical gaps for providing comprehensive cancer care in the country.

(e) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Kolkata Medical College

1280. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to up-grade Kolkata Medical College; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) and (b) There is proposal to upgrade Kolkata Medical College, Kolkata (West Bengal) under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Surakasha Yojana (PMSSY). The PMSSY Scheme has been cleared by the Expenditure Finance Committee and Committee of Secretaries (COS) and is being processed for placing before Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for approval.